

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 IO-13
ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 NRC-05 SOE-02 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NASA-01 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 DOE-15 SAS-02
CEQ-01 OES-09 SS-15 /152 W
-----023560 181021Z /11

O R 180956Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6253
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USUN
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 27616

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, CCD
SUBJ: COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT (CD): CONSULTATIONS
WITH FRENCH

REF: STATE 206907

1. ON AUGUST 17 ACDA OFFICER FLOWEREE, ACCOMPANIED
BY EMBOFF, CALLED ON GERALD DE LA ROCHEFORDIERE, QUAI

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DIRECTOR OF PACTS, WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR CD MEMBER-
SHIP QUESTIONS IN ABSENCE OF HIS COLLEAGUES.

2. FLOWEREE BEGAN BY SAYING THAT US RECOGNIZED FRENCH
PREFERENCE FOR NEW YORK AS VENUE FOR CONSULTATIONS ON
NEW CD MEMBERS. HE SAID THAT WE TOO ENVISAGE FINAL
STAGE INVOLVING CONSULTATIONS WITH REGIONAL GROUPS AT

UN. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT IN OUR MUTUAL INTEREST TO MAKE KNOWN OUR PREFERENCES AND TO FIND OUT AT EARLY STAGE WHERE AREAS OF CONSENSUS LIE AND WHERE THERE ARE AREAS OF DIFFERENCES. FOR INSTANCE, US WISHES TO ENSURE THAT A NATO COUNTRY IS INCLUDED IN THE ADDITIONAL MEMBERS AND WE BELIEVE THAT FRANCE SHARES THIS OBJECTIVE. THE SOVIETS, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAVE EXPRESSED A PREFERENCE FOR LIMITING THE NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS TO FIVE AND THEIR LIST OF PREFERRED COUNTRIES DOES NOT INCLUDE A NATO MEMBER.

3. FLOWERREE THEN WENT ON TO GIVE RATIONAL FOR OUR INITIAL PREFERRED LIST OF FIVE ADDITIONAL MEMBERS WHICH PROVIDED APPROPRIATE GEOGRAPHICAL AND POLITICAL BALANCE. DRAWING ON REFTTEL, HE EMPHASIZED THAT WE ARE FLEXIBLE CONCERNING THE NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS AND THAT OUR LIST OF FIVE MIGHT BE EXPANDED TO EIGHT WITH THE INCLUSION OF AN EUROPEAN NEUTRAL, ANOTHER LATIN AMERICAN STATE AND A BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRY.

4. DE LA ROCHEDORDIERE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR US VIEWS AND REHEARSED WELL-KNOWN FRENCH POSITION THAT REGIONAL GROUPS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO SELECT THEIR PREFERRED CANDIDATES. HE MADE THE POINT THAT THE GOF
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HAD NOT YET TAKEN A FINAL DECISION ON FRANCE'S PARTICIPATION IN THE CD SAYING THAT THIS DECISION WOULD BE AFFECTED BY THE BALANCE AND REPRESENTATIVITY ACHIEVED IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CD WHEN THE SELECTION PROCESS HAD BEEN COMPLETED. DE LA ROCHEFORDIERE AGREED THAT ANOTHER NATO MEMBER WOULD BE A DESIRABLE ADDITION IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE PROPER BALANCE BUT AT THE SAME TIME HE REITERATED THAT FRANCE WANTS THE REGIONAL GROUPS TO MAKE THE FINAL SELECTION. HE NOTED THAT, THOUGH

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 27616

FRANCE IS FLEXIBLE ON THE NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS
ADMISSION OF EIGHT WOULD MAKE IT EASIER TO GET AGREE-
MENT TO ADMISSION OF ANOTHER NATO COUNTRY, AND WOULD
CONTRIBUTE TO BROADER REPRESENTATIVITY. HE ALSO
REPEATED THAT THE GOF HAS NO PREFERRED CANDIDATES
AT THIS TIME.

5. DE LA ROCHEFORDIERE ASKED WHETHER THE US WAS SUP-
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PORTING VENEZUELA AS A LATIN AMERICAN CANDIDATE AS A
BARGAINING COUNTER TO BE USED IN NEGOTIATING WITH THE
SUPPORTERS OF CUBA FOR A PLACE ON THE COMMITTEE.
FLOWERREE REPLIED THAT THE US STILL STRONGLY
PREFERRED VENEZUELA TO CUBA AND SAID HE WAS NOT IN A
POSITION TO MAKE ANY PREDICTIONS ABOUT THE FINAL
OUTCOME OF THE SELECTION PROCESS. FLOWERREE ALSO
REFERRED BRIEFLY TO THE ROLE OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESIDENT MOJSOV WHO HAD JUST BEEN VISITING IN GENEVA
AND WHO APPEARED TO BE TAKING AN ACTIVE ROLE IN TRYING

TO DEVELOP A CONSENSUS AMONG LEADING COUNTRIES WITH REGARD TO THE QUESTION OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS. DE LA ROCHEFORDIERE ASKED IF WE THOUGHT IT NECESSARY TO FINISH THE SELECTION PROCESS BEFORE THE NEW GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION, SAYING THAT MOJSOV SHOULD CONTINUE TO PLAY THE ROLE OF COORDINATOR EVEN AFTER HIS SUCCESSOR TAKES OFFICE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 33RD UNGA. FLOWERREE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE IS NO FORMAL DEADLINE BUT SAID THAT THE ATMOSPHERE FOR THE DISCUSSION OF DISARMAMENT ISSUES WOULD BE BETTER IF THE SELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS HAD BEEN ACCOMPLISHED BY THE TIME THE 33RD UNGA BEGAN.

6. IN CLOSING, FLOWERREE SUGGESTED THAT WE WOULD WISH FROM TIME TO TIME TO KEEP THE GOF INFORMED IN PARIS OF OUR POSITION ON THE EVOLUTION OF THE SELECTION PROCESS AS WE RECEIVE FURTHER EXPRESSIONS OF VIEWS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. DE LA ROCHEFORDIERE SAID FRENCH WOULD APPRECIATE THIS, AND WOULD DO THE SAME.
GAMMON

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